

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The title amendment was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. DEWINE. In executive session, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to consideration of Calendar No. 31: Maj. Gen. Joseph M. Cosumano, Jr., to be Lieutenant General, and Tim McClain to be general counsel for the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

I further ask unanimous consent the nominations be confirmed en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc, that any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the RECORD, that the President be immediately notified, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Joseph M. Cosumano, Jr., 0000
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Tim S. McClain, of California, to be General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2001

Mr. DEWINE. On behalf of Majority Leader LOTT, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn under the provisions of the adjournment resolution H. Con. Res. 93 until 12 noon on Monday, April 23, 2001. I further ask consent that on Monday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal or proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then begin a period of morning business until 2 p.m. with Senators speaking for up to 5 minutes each, with the following exceptions: Senator DURBIN or his designee, 12 noon until 1 p.m.; Senator THOMAS or his designee, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, again, on behalf of Majority Leader LOTT, I

announce on Monday at 2 p.m. the Senate will begin the appointment of conferees process with respect to the budget resolution. A vote is not necessary with respect to those motions, and therefore no votes will occur during Monday's session.

Also, during that week, the Senate may be expected to consider S. 350, the brownfields bill, as well as other authorization bills that may be cleared.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO REPORT

Mr. DEWINE. I ask unanimous consent that committees have between the hours of 12 noon and 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17, to file committee-reported legislative and executive items.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DEWINE. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask that the Senate stand in adjournment under the provisions of H. Con. Res. 93 following the remarks of Senator BYRD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I thank the Chair and I thank the distinguished Senator from Ohio.

PRAISE FOR BUDGET MANAGEMENT

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, allow me to express my appreciation to Mr. DOMENICI and Mr. CONRAD for the excellent way in which they handled the concurrent resolution on the budget. They were fair, they were considerate, and they were very skillful in their performance. I also thank our two leaders, Mr. LOTT and Mr. DASCHLE, for the excellent guidance they gave through their respective caucuses. I also thank my friend, the senior Senator from Alaska, who is presiding over the Senate, for his friendship and for his excellent leadership on the Senate Appropriations Committee. I wish him and his lovely wife and family, especially for Lily, a happy Easter holiday.

EASTER

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, some years ago I read a story by Tolstoy titled, "How Much Land Does A Man Need?" Inasmuch as a considerable time has gone by since I last read this story, perhaps I shall say at the beginning that I am largely summarizing the story.

The story told of a man who had land hunger. He had orchards and vast other properties, but he could never get enough land. One day there stood in his presence a stranger who promised him all the land that he could cover in a day for 1,000 rubles. The conditions were that he would have to start at

sunrise and that he could travel all day and buy as much land as he could cover in a day for 1,000 rubles. He would be required to return to the starting point by sundown; otherwise he would lose both the land that he had covered and the 1,000 rubles.

So the man started out at last to get enough land. He took off his jacket, and as he surveyed the land before him, he thought that this was certainly the richest soil that he had ever seen and the land was so level that he felt that never before had he seen such land. He tightened his belt, and with the flask of water that his wife had provided to him, he began his journey.

At first he walked fast. His plan was to cover a plot of ground 3 miles square. After he covered the first 3 miles, he decided he would walk 3 more miles, and then he walked 3 more miles until at last he had covered 9 miles before he started upon the second side. As he went along, the land seemed to be ever, ever more level, and the soil ever more rich.

He completed the second side just as the Sun crossed the meridian. He sat down and ate the bread and the cheese that had been prepared by his wife. He drank most of the water from the flask, and then turned upon the third side. He completed the third side when the Sun was fairly high still in the heavens, but he was becoming quite tired. He took off his boots, which were becoming heavy, and he pressed on. He turned upon the fourth side. But strangely enough, the land became less level and more hilly. His arms and legs were scratched by the briars, and his feet had been cut by the stones. The whole landscape had changed to the extent that it was very adverse to his being able to continue at the same pace as in the beginning.

The Sun kept dropping closer and closer to the horizon. He kept his eye on the goal. He could see the stranger, waiting at the starting point. His servant had accompanied him and had placed a stake at each corner as a marker for the ground that had been covered.

As the Sun was sinking low, the man had become very tired and no longer could he walk upright. He had to crawl on his hands and knees. He could see the dim face of the stranger waiting at the starting point, and upon that stranger's face was a cruel smile. The man reached the starting point just as the Sun went down, but he had overtaxed his strength and he fell dead on the spot.

The stranger, who was called Death, said: "I promised him all the land he could cover. You see how much it is: 6 feet long, 2 feet wide. I have kept my pledge." The servant dug the grave for him.

The moral of the story is this: that the love of material things and the greed for gain shrivel the soul and leave the life a miserable failure at last.